



GREEN ASH *Fraxinus pennsylvanica* Marsh.



Green or red ash occurs over much of the state, particularly along the major rivers. It is not as abundant as the white and black ash, but is fairly common in central Maine. Sometimes mistaken for black ash, it grows near the banks of streams and lakes on rich, moist soil. It has stout branches that bend downward on older trees and form an irregular, compact head in the forest. It seldom exceeds a height of 50–60 feet and a diameter of 16–20 inches.

The quality of green ash wood is not as good as white ash.





Green ash twigs are often hairy and do not have deeply notched leaf scars.

MAINE REGISTER OF BIG TREES 2008
Green Ash
Circumference: 115"
Height: 63'
Crown Spread: 65'
Location: Mechanic Falls

The **bark** on the trunk of old trees is dark gray or brown, and firm and furrowed like that of the white ash.

The **leaves** are 10–12 inches long, opposite, with 7–9 leaflets borne per stalk. Leaflets are 4–6 inches long, entire or wavy, or sometimes toothed, particularly on the upper-half of the leaflets, yellow-green on the upper surface, hairy below and on the rachis, and oval to elliptical.

The **fruit** has a funnel-shaped seed body gradually blending into the terminal wing.

The current year **twigs** are greenish-gray and covered with numerous hairs, although sometimes there are no hairs. Inner bark is cinnamon red.

The **wood** is hard, heavy, fairly strong, coarse-grained and brittle. It is used in the same ways as white ash.

